

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



UNDP

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DP/PROJECTS/2758 ✓
(RAS/78/059)
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ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF
BANGLADESH, BURMA, FIJI, HONG KONG, INDIA, INDONESIA, LAO PEOPLE'S
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, MALAYSIA, NEPAL, PAKISTAN, PAPUA NEW GUINEA,
PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, THAILAND
AND VIET NAM

Asian Regional Project for Strengthening Labour/Manpower
Administration (ARPLA) (Phase II) (RAS/78/059)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	February 1979
Starting date of project activities:	January 1979 (including previous assistance)
Planned completion date:	December 1981
Government implementing agencies:	Ministries/Departments of Labour/ Manpower of the Participating Governments
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	\$ 1 095 300
Source of UNDP financing:	Regional Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The present Phase II project was preceded by a first phase project (RAS/72/069)^{1/} whose main objective was to assist Asian and Pacific Governments in developing labour administration systems suited to their respective development efforts. At a tripartite review of the project in June 1977, attended by the participating Governments, the Executing Agency, and UNDP, the further continuation of the project activities under a Phase II project was recommended.

^{1/} DP/PROJECTS/222 and 2020.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of \$250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing.)

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2. Pending finalization of the full project proposal for the Phase II project, Preparatory Assistance was approved in December 1978 2/ to cover the first year of project operations and was utilized to finance a core staff and related consultancy inputs required for the maintenance and implementation of already-committed activities, which were essential to sustain the operational momentum of the programme.

II. Objectives and activities

3. The immediate objective of the project remains to assist in increasing the capacity of Governments to identify, formulate, articulate, implement, and evaluate activities in the field of labour and manpower. Member Governments will be provided with knowledge and expertise for the formulation and implementation of workable labour policies which promote national economic and social development and ensure equitable income distribution. The organization and operational capacity of labour ministries will be developed in some countries and upgraded in others, in order effectively to administer manpower and to participate in national development efforts. Labour ministries will be helped in needed orientation and organizational adjustments, so that they may better meet changing situations. Training for personnel in labour administration will be provided to promote professionalism in personnel working on labour questions, and a regional research and information system will be developed as an instrument for the development of labour policy and administration in the Region. The project will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among labour administration professionals of the Region and will serve as a machinery for regional co-operation among national systems of labour administration.

III. Inputs

4. Under the assistance now approved, UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, three experts in labour economics and labour studies, human resources, and in the organization of manpower services, as well as short-term consultants in various fields. UNDP will also provide for group training, subcontractual services for special studies and reports, and a modicum of support equipment.

5. The Governments will provide manpower resources, hosting facilities for meetings, training inputs and funds for publications and training materials directly to the project.

2/ DP/PROJECTS/2456.

IV. Financial data

6. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	<u>Previously approved</u>	<u>Present approval</u>	<u>Total approved</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Personnel	256 600	501 300	757 900
Subcontracts	12 000	24 000	36 000
Training	138 000	516 000	654 000
Equipment	7 500	22 500	30 000
Miscellaneous	<u>10 000</u>	<u>31 500</u>	<u>41 500</u>
	<u>424 100</u>	<u>1 095 300</u>	<u>1 519 400</u>

7. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly to the project, by the Governments concerned, is \$466,000 in kind. An additional \$389,900 will be provided by the International Labour Organisation to cover the costs of the Senior Adviser and his support staff.

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